

# AGAINST THE

## ODDS

### # 12

ISSUE THE DOZENTH

"For the Straights"

August 19, 1978

Welcome, again, the show begins again. What a way to start off. Well, Against the Odds is dedicated to Diplomacy, which is a registered trademark of Avalon Hill. My name is Craig A. Reges and the address is below. Speaking of which.....

#### Goodbye, Xerox!

As a result of my being totally unqualified for any position other than professional student at this time, I am heading for that big university down south, of here anyway. I will be starting at Western Illinois University down in Macomb, Natch. WIU fortunately has residence halls for Upperclassmen and Graduates which will make it possible to get the hell away from the jerky freshmen, who give everybody a pain. I'll be doing Graduate work in biological sciences (fancy title, eh?) starting August 29, but since I'll be leaving on Aug. 26, I'll be gone by the time most of you receive this. Therefore, my new address will be:

1501 Higgins Hall  
Western Illinois University  
Macomb, Ill., 61455

Tele:(309)-295-7176

I told a friend of mine that I figured that Macomb would be a ghost town if not for WIU and he said, "No, it wouldn't." Apparently there are more millionaires in Macomb, per capita, than anywhere in the country. Some good industry is around there also. ((9 millionaires in a town of 18,000))) My big problem is that I will be losing my method of reproduction and I am not yet sure how I'm going to print the next issue. I will try to use the Dep't machine to print this. So hold your breath and hope that I have no problems. I'll get it out somehow.

#### Game Openings

I have SIX people signed up for two games. The Novice game, no game fee required, has Scheifele, Dortch, Mooney, Price, Lightbody and Babits. The ATO #4 (\$2 game fee + \$2. refundable deposit for one or less NMR's) has Frank, Oaklyn Harmon, Smith, Holton, and Trojan. Come on, guys, just one more for each game. Let's start 'em.

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## Two man Dip #2

I have another game of 2-man on hand, featuring noted Southern California pair of Jerry H. Jones, Publisher of Lies, Deceit and Nefarious Schemes, or LD&NS, which has this disgusting habit of coming out on time all the time, a rarity nowadays. ((10/\$4, right?)) The other is Eric Verheiden, noted writer of tactics articles and in the hobby for a long time. I expect a good game here. The rules are slightly different than for the other game. The first to reach 24 centers in this game will win. Eric is playing Russia, England and France; Jerry will have Germany, Austria and Turkey while Italy will be in C.D. The Spring, 1902 moves will be due next time.

BNC

Well, sad to say, but true, I don't think that the Boardman Number Custodian has issued a number in about 4 months. It seems that a new BNC will soon take over and I hope that this is soon. Some games are in Spring 1903 and still without numbers. This is bad for all concerned and the likely candidate for BNC, Dennis Agosta, will have a tough time catching up for a while. Let's hope that the transfer is expedited quickly.

Las Vegas International Diplomacy Tournament

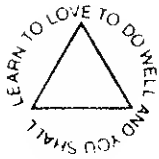
I received a letter from Dave Grabar, whom I've had dealings with elsewhere about the aforementioned tournament. It will be held on Memorial Day Weekend, May 26, 27 and 28, 1979. The entry fee is \$200.00 but since this includes all meals, lodging and the prize fund, that really is not so bad. The prize fund will be between \$4000 and \$4300 dollars, with the 1st place winner getting as much as all of it, or, by prior agreement of the 49 entrants permitted, the first through twelfth will range between \$1.000 and \$25. In other words, the distribution isn't worked out yet and the prize distribution will vary. But if you do well, it seems, you can perhaps get your money back, with interest, and if not, well, a vacation in Vegas ain't too bad either. Contact Dave at 4346 E. Armel Ct., Las Vegas, Nevada, 89110. (702)-453-1053.

Letters actually arrive! (You guys can write!)

Fred Davis, Jr.: "RE your item in ATO #11, about whether GM's have the right to refuse to let a player into his games. Isay, YES, a GM must have the right to decline to admit a player, provided that the reason is related to something the player has done in the past which makes him a suitable player. (In Britain, for example, players who fail to pay their subscriptions or game fees are informally blacklisted as deadbeats, although not all pubbers follow this practise.) I believe that a GM has the right to refuse to accept a player anyone who has a history of upsetting games and/or players with either ridiculous protests or harrassment of the GM or other players. I would also not accept as a player a person who had a history of frequently dropping out of games, either in my zine or in the hobby as a whole." ((Really, this is a very reasonable proposal in my opinion. Unfortunately, it does nothing to further the argument of the next letter, which is a doozy, since Oaklyn, to my knowledge, has never missed a move or resigned a game. The Oaklyn/Tretick has always centered on O/T being a lousy GM, not on Bernie's ability as a player. Even Rod Walker says he is a reliable player. So on this theory, Bernie could not be excluded. But, I think that Rod did the right thing here since the two of them are at odds about so many things, one small slipup on either of their parts and you would have one or the other bitching like hell about it, and it could serve only to disrupt the game.))

August 19, 1978

((For instance, this. This kind of silliness can only serve to screw the whole hobby up, although I suppose Bernie has no other options since direct Bernie Oaklyn complaints will have no effect.))



13412 Brackley Terrace  
Silver Spring,  
Maryland 20904

(301) 384-1432

August 1, 1978

Craig Reges  
16 W 761 White Pines road  
Bensenville, IL 60106

Dear Craig, and Mr. Editor:

I telephone the FBI here in Washington D.C. and told them what postal Diplomacy is (They are going to start a full scale investigation now).

Then I asked them that if games are advertised without the advertising discriminating against certain persons, places, things, or whatever, must they admit all comers? They said it is against the Federal Laws of the United States Postal Code not to admit all players.

Now, it comes to past as to whether or not I am supposed to file charges against Rod Walker and/or Don Horton for not admitting me, Bernie Oaklyn, to his game.

I ask you, dear reader, to advise me with your concerned opinions about this matter. Should we have Don Horton force the ousting of the seventh paid player and reinstate me into the game. Or should we agree that if Rod Walker will GM another game in Claw and Fang immediately, then I will play (I am sure he will assign me Italy), and call that square.

Should I file charges with the FBI, who will pursue this case without charges to me since a federal law has been violated. This could very well close down Don Horton's Claw and Fang, and might have the effect of shutting up Rod Walker, that guy who goes around dressed up like God!

Bernie Oaklyn

((One thing noteworthy here is the nice stationary that Bernie uses. The next page has a letter about how its done and how to go about doing it yourself.))

((Side Note: Since thisspace is doing nothing, I will print a request here. Chuck Price is new to the hobby and has only seen my zine. He says that he would appreciate my passing on his name to other Pubbers who might wish to send him a sample copy of their zine. His address is:

Charles M. Price ET1  
SSC Staff  
ET-A School (A-1)  
Great Lakes, IL., 60088

If some of you can, why not send him a copy ? ))

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the many comments that I am receiving on my personal envelope design and my gamezine cover design.

Since it is time consuming answering each individual inquiry, I ask that you publish my comments.

It is simple enough to either draw your own characters, purchase them, or steal them from newspaper comic section, magazines, or the like.

Cut the characters out, being careful to leave a black border on the outside borders of the characters, and, using rubber cement, glue them onto a sheet of paper where you would like them. This type of glue enabled you to reposition the item if you don't like where you placed it the first time.

No matter what size your characters, you should obtain them somewhat near the same size for them to look half way good.

It is an easy matter to have the printer photo-reduce this camera ready copy to the size of your gamezine page. Note that color characters transfer to black and white with tones which are sometimes not at all representative of what you started with.

My symbol is my registered trademark, used in my business. I dare any of you to use it, but encourage each of you to design one of your own.

While it is true that blue ink orders placed at the printers must suffer a wash down charge, anywhere from \$6 to \$16 per order, it is well worth it to get away from the normal black ink on white page, which I have done. It is less expensive to get all of your work done, and in the largest quantity practical, at the same time to save on the wash-down charge.

I do print my zine with my own mimeograph press, using blue ink on blue paper. It adds a class touch of its own and make my 'zine unique from most of the others.

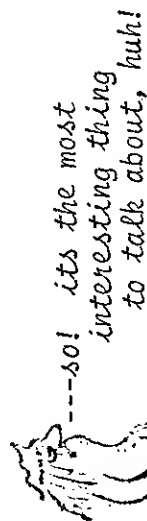
To add to a personal touch, many of you have received my envelope with "words" coming out of the mouth of the character on the left of the envelope. It's my way of adding to the media of conducting Diplomacy and stating a message to the person (or thing in the case of Rod Walker).

If you are going to be in the Diplomacy World for several years, design your own stationery, and seek the aide (for a few bucks) of a typesetter or composition printer to obtain copy in lettering of your choice. But, do it and reflect your own man.

Signed: Bernie Oaklyn, 13412 Brackley Terrace, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

Bernie Oaklyn

13412 Brackley Terrace  
Silver Spring,  
Maryland 20904

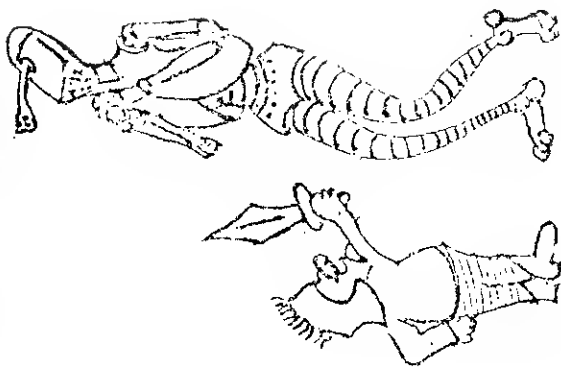
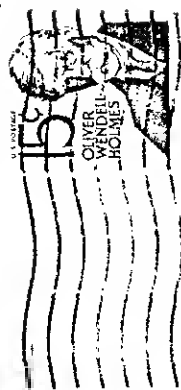


the Front de Liberation du Diplomacy  
... a medium for postal Diplomacy

Craig Reges  
16 West 761 White Pines Road  
Bensenville  
IL 60106



Bernie  
Oaklyn



ONE FROM C

HAVE A NICE DAY

As I awoke this morning,  
the bright new day was born.

A robin perched upon the sill,  
to signal the coming dawn.

The bird was graceful, young and  
gay, and sweetly did sing.

The thought of joy and happiness,  
within my heart did ring.

I smiled at his cheery song,  
then it paused a moment's lull.

And I gently closed the window,  
and crushed his fucking skull.

1975W Spring, 1911

England/14/Shields F Swe-GoB, F Bal-Lvn, F Nth C A Edi-Nwy, F Lvp-Nat,  
F Lon-Eng, F Bre-MAO, F MAO-NAF, F Spasc-Mar, F Port-Spasc, A Edi-Nwy, A Ber-Pru  
A Mun-Sil, A Kiel-Ber, A Ruhr-Mun, A Burg S F Spasc-Mar

Italy/7/Silko F Wmed F Ion- F Emed-  
F Apu A Mar ~~A/Vir~~ A Vie A Tri

Russia/3/Foster A Gal-Rum, A Ukr S A Mos-Sev

Turkey/9/Michal F Alb-Adr, F Gre-Alb, F Bulsc-Gre, A Smy-Arm, A Con-Bul  
A Bud-Gal, A Rum S A Sev-Ukr, A Sev-Ukr, A Ser-Bud

London to ~~England~~ Russia: The Government has considered the Russian demand for an apology for the so-called "stab." A reply is being prepared and will be taken to Moscow at once.

Fall, 1901 is due next time.

1976BH Spring, 1910

Austria/2/Jones A Bud & Avie S each toher  
France/11/Mahler A Par-Pic, A Hol-Kiel, A Kiel-Mun, A Burg and A Ruhr S)  
F Bre-EngC, F Edi S F Lon-Nth, F Nwg-BarS, F Lvp-Nat, F NAT-NwgS

Germany/5/Tomcufoik A Mun-Kiel (Fden and A Ber S) F Ska-Nth, A Sil-Ber

Italy/11/Boyer A Ven-Tyr, A Tri S A Ser-Bud, F Blk-Rum, A Con-Ank, fSmy H  
F Gre-Bulsc, F Adr-Ion, A Ser-Bud, A Alb-Ser, A Rome-WenF Nap-Apu

Russia/5/Caruso A Rum-Ser, A Ukr-Rum, A Lvn-Ser, F Nth-Nwy,  
F Bal S Ger A Ber-Kiel

Fall, 1910 due next time.

1976BQ Mid-1909 DELAY!

Well, of all the games I'm running, this is the most depressing. I thank all of you who are sticking with it. This would be running as planned except that Bobcat failed to submit standby orders. ((Thanks a lot.)) and so, while Mr. Adams is OUT of this game since he has NMRed THREE times, at LEAST, I won't run a fourth nmr, which would not have been necessary if Newell had come through. Rats. Well, Alan Rowland has graciously accepted the position and will be hopefully MUCH more reliable. The addresses:

England: Alan Rowland, Box 2173 Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., 18042  
Germany: David Hance, 1103 Radcliffe Dr., Davis, Ca., 95616  
Italy: Bill Frank, 732 Hialrah Dr., Racine, Wi., 53402  
Russia: Jerry H. Jones, 1354 Wagner St., Pasadena, Ca., 91107  
Turkey: Ken Silko, 5903 N. Campbell., Chicago, Ill., 60657

Fall, 1909 due next time. I would suggest that ALL of you resubmit your orders, especially since some of you didn't submit any. Please stick with this for just a little longer.

1978AH Fall, 1903 France is French!

Austria/5/Alan A Rome § A Tri-Ven(/d/ r to Pied, Apu, OTB), A Gre-Ser,  
 A Tri-Ven, A Bud S Turkish A Bul-Rum  
 England/3/Cook NMR! F Nwg, F EngC both Hold, F Nth /d/ r to Ska, Hel, Edi,  
 York, Lon)  
 Frande/4/Oaklyn A Par § F Bre-Pic, A Gas-Bur, F Spasc-Mar  
 Germany/6/Tomcufcik F Bel S F Den-Nth, A Kiel-Hol, A Ruhr S F Bel, A Pic §  
A Burg-Par  
 Italy/3/Rowland F Tyrr-Nap, F Tus S A Ven-Rome  
 Russia/8/Caruso A Fin and F StPnc S F Swe-Nwy, A Gal-Vie, F Arm-Ank, F Blk S  
A Rum-Bul  
 Turkey/4/Kelly A Bul-Rum, F Aeg-Con(F Ank §) A Smy S F Ank

Centers: Austria: ~~Vip~~, Tri, Ser, Ven, Gre, NAP, BUD 6, build one  
 England: Home, EVEN  
 France: Bre, Mar, PAR, Spa, Port 5, no room to build, will play c  
 one short  
 Germany: Home, Hol, Den, ~~BEL~~, ~~Vip~~  
 Italy: ~~Nap~~, Rome, Tur 2, remove one  
 Russia: Home, Swe, Rum, Nwy, ~~Bul~~, VIE  
 Turkey: Home Bul EVEN

((See COA, Rowland, 1976BQ))

Press: Paris: Overjoyed at the arrival home of French troops here in Paris,  
 The populace broke out the bottoms of wine barrels and tilted their heads back  
 to catch the flow of wine now pouring from the kegs. Drunk, but still on his  
 smelly feet, the President issued a proclamation that all support was to be  
 cut off from the Germans. "We will start with a direct attack onto German Held  
 positions in Burgundy and Picardy. Then we will move to destroy completely  
 their rank and file. Send the fleet back to Marseilles for a well earned vacatio  
 Those Germans will soon see that is futile, futile I say! to continue their a  
 attack on our lovely vineyards!"

Gascony: Having received a direct communique from the President as to the  
 route to take in the elimination of the Germans from our soil, the sargent of  
 the watch tore the sheet from the teletype, an ancient mechanism used to convey  
 ideas over a wire from point to point when a point was to be made. Drunker than  
 the pirate he handed it to, the sargent said, "Get on with it!" The Private,  
 smelling like forty year ~~Vip~~ old wine once fit to drink, wrote the orderson  
 his shirt cuff and ripped it off., slapping it at another soldier. The orders,  
 rewritten as many times as the Bible, by man, capable of error, misinterpretation  
 interpretation, misunderstanding, understanding and rewording for his own  
 sake, finally read like this:

army Buddy Tretick to Rod Walker  
 army Bernie Supports army Buddy Tretick to Rod Walker  
 Army Rod Walker retreats to Hell (Capitalized in this case)  
 fleet Ted McDonald (Now thought also to be Buddy Tretick)  
 to Conrad von Metske  
 fleet Andy Tomcufcik to sink

Confident in the orders he Himself issued, the President set out on the  
 road in an ancient chariot, heading for Berlin, to view the rubble within its  
 own rubble.

((More Press next page.))

Ankara: (Special Announcement) Ther will be an urgent special meeting of "The friends who cam from the same ~~XXXX~~ point of origin" on Sept. 5 at location #7.

ATO#2 Winter, 1901

Austria/5/Tomcufcik	Build A Bud, A Vie	has F Gre, A Ser, A Tri
England/4/Cozzi	Build F Edi	Also F Norway, EngC, A Wales
France/5/Buck	Build F Mar and B Bre	also F Pic, A Spa, Bel
Germany/4/Harmon	Build A Kiel	has F Swe, A Hol, Mun
Italy/4/McArdle	Build F Naples	A Tus, Fied, F Tun
Russia/6/Dortch	Build F Sev, A War	A Ber, Ukr, F Rum, GoB
Turkey/4/Moraitus	Build F Smy	also F Bla, A Bul, con

Spring, 1902 due next time.

Press: Paris: This beleagured country hereby issues its death challenge to its foes. We, the French, may not see the end of this campaign, but rest assured that the Jackal shall be devoured by the other world powers who have the ~~flex~~ flexibility to capitalize on the open single-mindedness of the weak.

ATO#3 Winter, 1901

Austria/5/Mooney	Build A Vie, A Bud	also A Ser, Tri, F Gre
England/4/Foster	Build F Edi	Also EngC, Nwy A York
France/Rowland/5	Build F Bre and F Mar	also A Bur, Spa, F Port
Germany/5/Aentter, Jr.	Build A Mun	also F Swe, A Kiel, A Hol
Italy/4/Morrison	Build F Map	also A Ven, A Tun, F Ion
Russia/5/Ctvos	Build A Mos	also A Ber, AUkr, F Bal-Sev
Turkey/4/Mainardi	Build F Con	also A Bul, Arm F Ank

Press: Germany: Isn't it interesting how Russia and England are cooperation, considering that Russia has written no one and that both England and Russia live around Chicago!!!!

((Actually, Colin has informed me that he is moving to Las Vegas and since he is sort of communting for a while, he may not be writing to anybody.))

See COA Rowland: In 1976BQ ((Also, Kevin is getting married so he will be honeymooning.))

Two-Man #1

Gibsonia

A: A Ukr-Mos, A Bud-Ser, A Vie-Gal  
A Ser-Gre, F Gre-Aeg  
 E: F Ion-Nth, A Yor-Wales, F Nwg-Nat  
F Nwy / GER F Swe  
 G: A Ber-Sil, A Kiel-Den  
F Swe S A Kiel-Den  
A Mun-Bur, A Hol-Bel

*ROWLAND*

F: A Par-Bur (S By A Bel) F Bre-Pic  
F EngC-Nth, A SpaH  
 R: A War-Sil, A Gal-Rum, A StP-Nwy  
F Bal-Kiel, F Rum-Sev  
 T: F Smy-Aeg, A Con S A Bul,  
 F Bla and A Bul S Russian A Gal-Rum

Moscow: Intellectual Meritocracy was fun ~~for~~ while it lasted. If the Austrians take Moscow they're probably no worse than the czars we endured so long. So our armies are fighting the British navy and the Dread Wehrmacht. France s ays it will rescue us (about the year 2000 we reckon.)





ATC#4 Game Filled

Winter, 1900

Austria:	John Caruso	12-39 148th St., Whitestone, N.Y., 11357
England:	Leland Harmon	1802 X Ave., LaGrande, Oregon., 97850
France:	Bill Frank	732 Hialrah Dr., Racine, WI., 53402
Germany:	Bennie Caklyn	13412 Brackley Terrace, Silver Spring, Md., 20904
Italy:	Rich Holton	3978 Urbandale Dr., St. Joseph, MI., 49085
Russia:	Bob Trojan	538 Bellwood Ave., Bellwood, Ill., 60104
Turkey:	Roy Smith	64 Addicks Rd., Westwood, N.J., 07675

Caruso and Harmon owe me \$4.00 each. Your Spring, 1901  
deadline will be ~~August 2~~ September 26, 1978, noon.

### The Deadlines

We'll have a deadline on September 26, 1978 at noon. If we have a postal strike, then the deadline will be two weeks after the strike ends or 9/26/78, whichever comes LAST. Lets hope we don't have to go through that.

ATO Press

Failure Publications

Craig A. Reges

1501 Higgins Hall

Macomb, Il., 61455

Issues Left \_\_\_\_\_

In New Game \_\_\_\_\_

See Page \_\_\_\_\_